

C1BRIICKHO SOVA/TW 4508 KRASNYA ZVEZDA AND KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA REPORT PAGE 0020

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FYI: ARMY PAPER LAUDS COURAGE OF SOVIET AIRMEN IN DRA

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<> MOSCOW <><> KRASNAYA ZVEZDA <><> IN RUSSIAN 3 AUGUST 1985 SECOND EDITION CARRIES ON PAGE 3 A 1,950-WORD REPORTAGE BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT MAJOR A. OLIYNIK UNDER THE HEADLINE "SIZZLING SKY ON THE COURAGE AND SKILL OF SOVIET HELICOPTER CREWS IN AFGHANISTAN" DESCRIBING THE WORK DONE BY HELICOPTER CREWS IN THE DRA. ON THE BASIS OF THE EXPERIENCE OF THE HELICOPTER CREW LED BY CAPTAIN PYRIN, WHO HAS BEEN AWARDED THE ORDER OF THE RED STAR AND THE KOMSOMOL "MILITARY VALOR" MEDAL, OLIYNIK DESCRIBES THE TYPICAL TASKS PERFORMED BY HELICOPTER CREWS IN THE DRA: RESCUING WOUNDED SERVICEMEN, DROPPING LANDING FORCES, AND TRANSPORTING FOOD, MEDICINES, AND COMBAT HARDWARE. SUCH TASKS, HE STRESSES, MOST FREQUENTLY INVOLVE PERILOUS LANDINGS AND TAKEOFFS, SOMETIMES AT NIGHT, AND ALWAYS RUN THE RISK OF DUCHMAN ATTACK. "EACH FLIGHT," OLIYNIK CONTINUES, "IS A TEST -- OF FLYING SKILL, PRESENCE OF MIND, AND COURAGE." AND HE CONCLUDES THAT "THE GROUND SUBUNITS OF THE LIMITED CONTINGENT OF SOVIET FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN ARE ALWAYS UNDER RELIABLE COVER FROM THE AIR." NO FURTHER PROCESSING PLANNED. 3 AUG AG/MARSHALL/DP

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